

VZCZCXYZ0014  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHC #5349 2761442  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
P 021439Z OCT 08  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 2208  
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY 9103  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 5882  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 8074  
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY 4637  
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY 5252  
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 5797  
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY 9168  
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY 1045  
INFO RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY 7839  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHMFSS/Joint STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 105349

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/25/2018  
TAGS: BA EG JO KU MAS MO PARM PREL SA TS TU  
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR M113 ARMORED VEHICLES TO YEMEN

REF: NONE

Classified By: PM A/S Mark T. Kimmitt E.O. 12958 Reasons 1.4 (b), (d)

¶1. (U) This is an action request for Embassies Abu Dhabi, Amman, Ankara, Cairo, Kuwait, Manama, Rabat, Riyadh, and Tunis. Please see paragraph 2.

-----  
OBJECTIVE  
-----

¶2. (U) Department requests that Posts engage appropriate host country officials at the earliest possible opportunity to determine the feasibility and availability of transferring M113 armored personnel carriers (APCs) currently in host country inventory to Yemen via a Third Party Transfer (TPT). Washington seeks to complete the TPT - including vehicle delivery - within one to three months. Department appreciates Posts' assistance with this urgent request.

¶3. (U) Points to Deliver:

-- As the situation in Iraq has stabilized, al-Qaeda elements have had a resurgence in Yemen in the past year.

-- The resurgence has been fed by the national government's inability to exert its authority in remote areas characterized by rugged, inaccessible terrain.

-- As part of the USG's efforts to upgrade our counterterrorism (CT) cooperation with Yemen, and in the broader context of bolstering Yemeni security, the Department seeks to address an urgent request from the Government of Yemen for U.S.-origin M113 APCs for the defense of Sanaa and for CT purposes. The vehicles would be provided to Yemen via a Third Party Transfer.

-- As the United States does not have these vehicles immediately available from our inventories, we request you consider providing U.S.-origin vehicles to Yemen via a Third Party Transfer.

-- As these vehicles will be provided via a Third Party Transfer, a request will need to be submitted by the host country in order to initiate the request and process.

-----  
REPORTING DEADLINE  
-----

¶4. (U) Posts should report findings by cable to PM/RSAT  
Chris Danielewski and NEA/ARP Andrew MacDonald no later than  
October 10.

-----  
BACKGROUND  
-----

¶5. (S) Yemen has continued to request -- most recently  
during a September 17 Secretary Rice-President Saleh call --  
armored vehicles for defense of Sanaa and for CT purposes.  
The Department seeks an initial (25) M113 armored vehicles  
within one-to-three months. Additional vehicles, ultimately  
numbering 150-200, might subsequently be provided pursuant to  
(1) Yemen's progress on the CT front, and (2) intended use  
(e.g., to also defend U.S. interests in Sanaa).

End Points.  
RICE